UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/847,382	05/03/2001	Jeffrey Richard Conrad	10006614-1	6078

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/847,382	CONRAD ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Benjamin R Bruckart	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 January 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
      closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4, 6-14 and 16-19* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4, 6-14 and 16-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
         application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19 are pending in this Office Action.

Claims 5, 15, and 20 are cancelled.

The change to the specification is accepted.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in the amendment filed 1/19/05 have been fully considered

but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's invention as claimed:

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,243 by Kulkarni et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,295,527 by McCormack et al.

Regarding claim 1,
The Kulkarni reference teaches a method of providing information related to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising:
receiving at least one criteria for viewing (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37);
retrieving network device information related to one or more network devices in said one or more networks which satisfy said criteria (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60; col. 2, lines 12-27); and
creating for display on a single display page a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation including at least one network segment visually distinguishable from any other at least one network segment included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; physical or logical view; Figures 4a-4c), wherein each of said at least one network segment comprises at least one of said one or more network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37), and which is physically connected to the same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).
The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).
The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9).
The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).
Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 2-4, 6-13 are rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein said retrieving network device information comprises:
retrieving network segment information for each of said one or more network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 15-34; col. 6, lines 20-37), said network segment information defining which of said one or more network segments to which said each of said one or more network devices is physically connected (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 63-67; col. 6, table 1-subnetwork).

Regarding claim 3, the method of claim 2, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information comprises:
creating said visual representation based on said retrieved network segment information (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67).

Regarding claim 4, the method of claim 3, wherein said network segment information includes information related to said one or more segments, and wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information comprises:
creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation is divided into said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67; view just by sub network).

Regarding claim 6, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:
creating said visual representation such that said visual representation includes an indicia indicating a division between each of said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 53-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

Regarding claim 7, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:
creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said one or more network devices (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62- col. 3, line 5).

Regarding claim 8, the method of claim 4, wherein said creating a visual representation of said network device information further comprises:
creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62- col. 3, line 5; col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Fig. 6A).

Regarding claim 9, the method of claim 1, wherein said retrieving network device information further comprises:
retrieving said network device information from a database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-54).

Regarding claim 10, the method of claim 1, wherein said receiving at least one filter comprises:
receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1; McCormack: col. 5, liens 10-19; col. 9, lines 29-50; Filter Type).

Regarding claim 11, the method of claim 10, wherein said receiving at least one filter comprises:
receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node attribute (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; node attributes; col. 4, lines 6-40; McCormack: col. 8, lines 29-58).

Regarding claim 12, the method of claim 11, wherein said at least one node attribute comprises at least one node status, and said receiving at least one filter comprises:
receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; McCormacl: col. 1, lines 21-65).

Regarding claim 13, the method of claim 1, further comprising:
displaying said visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; col. 2, lines 12-27).

Regarding claim 14, a network management node connected to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), said network management node comprising:

a plurality of modules stored on a computer readable medium (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 11-41); and

a database storing information related to a plurality of network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-60), wherein said plurality of modules are operable to receive information (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37); retrieve network device information based on said information from said database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60); and create a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27), said visual representation including at least one network segment each visually distinguishable from any other at least one network segment included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; physical or logical view; Figures 4a-4c), wherein each of said at least one network segment comprises at least one of said one or more network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37), and which is physically connected to a same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claim 16 is rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 16, the network management node of claim 14, further comprising:

a network interface operable to transmit said visual representation of said network device information over the Internet (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; Figure 1).

Regarding claim 17,

The Kulkarni teaches a computer readable medium on which is embedded a program, the program performing a method for providing information related to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising:

receiving information (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37);

retrieving network device information based on said information, said network device information being related to one or more network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60; col. 2, lines 12-27); and

creating a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation including at least one network segment each visually distinguishable from any other at least one network segment included in the visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; physical or logical view; Figures 4a-4c), wherein each of said at least one network segment comprises at least one of said one or more network devices which satisfy said filter criteria (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-37), and which is physically connected to a same wire (Kulkarni: figure 4).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2, alarms).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 18-19 are rejected under the same rationale as given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teaches of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 18, the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein said filter information comprises:

at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1; lines 27-29).

Regarding claim 19, the computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said filter information comprises:

node status, and at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; the level is child or parent; McCormack: col. 1, lines 21-65).

REMARKS

Applicant has combined claim 5, 15 and 20 into the independent claims and added a

limitation about the information being physically connected to the same wire.

The Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues Kulkarni does not disclose teach or suggest "receiving at least one filer

comprising filter criteria..." and that there is no motivation to combine.

In response, the examiner respectfully submits:

The Kulkarni reference teaches the cited portions above. Kulkarni does not explicitly

state a filter but describes the actions in text and figures centered in col. 6, lines 20-37 and

Figures 4A-4C. The Kulkarni reference shows changing the view of different objects chosen by

the user. The user can change the view from logical to physical or the focus of the viewing from

a router to several routers or a sub network. The examiner maintains that Kulkarni teaches the

cited features without filter criteria. The McCormack reference is used to further show prior art

that the claimed limitation is not novel. The combination to combine is taught in the 103

statement. The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network

information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current

membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62). Therefore it would have been obvious

at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the method of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing filter criteria as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Applicant has argued the Kulkarni reference as the motivation and not the McCormack reference. The motivation to combine is in the McCormack reference but the Kulkarni reference teaches inherency for viewing the network based on the users input as illustrated in Figures 4A-4C.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin R Bruckart whose telephone number is (571) 272-3982. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30PM with every other Friday off.
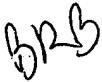
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Benjamin R Bruckart
Examiner
Art Unit 2155

brb

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